

MARVEL

34

LGY#760

GRØNBEKK
GEDEON
DÁVILA
PARSONS
WILSON

THOR



THOR

“BLOOD OF THE FATHERS” PART FOUR

THOR IS THE KING OF ASGARD. RECENTLY HIS FATHER, ODIN, DIED, AND SINCE HE COULDN'T PASS ON TO VALHALLA – MYSTERIOUSLY EMPTIED OF SPIRITS – ODIN'S SPIRIT TOOK UP RESIDENCE IN THOR'S HAMMER.

OR IT DID UNTIL, WHILE THOR WAS INVESTIGATING THE DISAPPEARANCES OF ALL THE SOULS IN BOTH VALHALLA AND HEL, ODIN'S SPIRIT WAS DEVoured BY NIDHOGG, A SOUL-EATING MONSTER. THOR AND VALKYRIE FOLLOWED NIDHOGG TO LATVERIA, WHERE THEY DISCOVERED THAT DOCTOR DOOM HAD STOLEN THE MISSING SOULS TO POWER A MACHINE THAT WOULD “RELIEVE” HUMANS OF THEIR FREE WILL. HOW HE MANAGED TO CAPTURE THE SOULS AND IMPRISON HELA, GODDESS OF DEATH AND CO-RULER OF HEL, REMAINS UNKNOWN...

...BUT IT IS SOMEHOW CONNECTED TO A VAULT THAT WAS BURIED DEEP IN NIFFLEHEIM MILLENNIA AGO BY THOR'S GRANDFATHER BOR. WHEN THOR OPENED IT, HE FOUND A TIME STORM: A SWIRLING MASS OF PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE. FROM THE FUTURE, A TEENAGE VERSION OF THOR'S BABY SISTER, LAUSSA, EMERGED WITH A WARNING.

MEANWHILE IN THE PAST, BOR WAGED WAR AGAINST THANOS, WHO HAD TRAVELED THROUGH TIME IN SEARCH OF A MYSTERIOUS BLACK STONE THAT HE BELIEVED BOR WAS ATTEMPTING TO CREATE. BUT HE WAS SHOCKED TO LEARN THAT THE RESULT OF BOR'S EFFORTS WAS NOT A STONE, BUT A CHILD.

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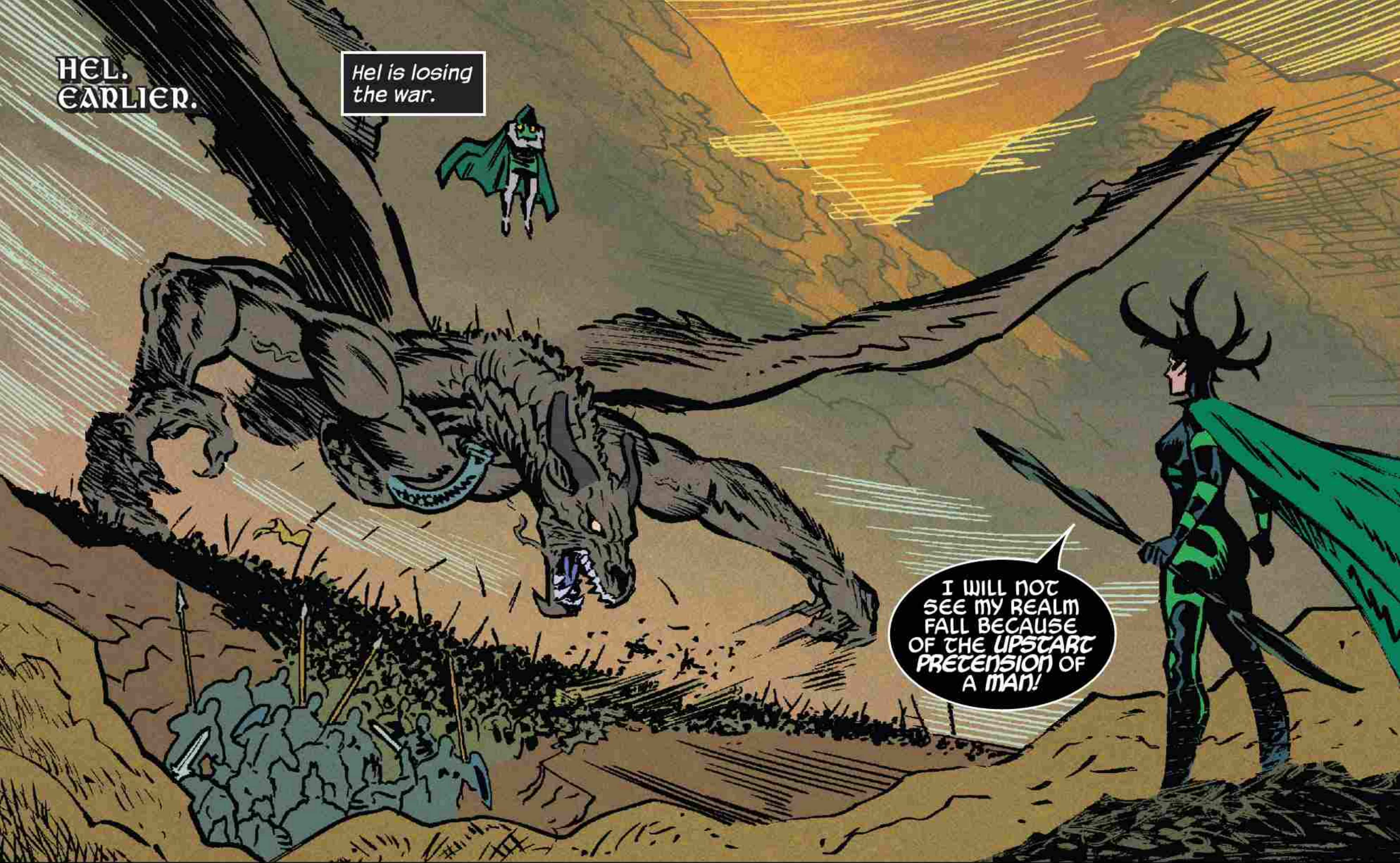
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THOR created by STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER & JACK KIRBY

HEL.
EARLIER.

Hel is losing
the war.



I WILL NOT
SEE MY REALM
FALL BECAUSE
OF THE UPSTART
PRETENSION OF
A MAN!

NOT
A MAN,
HELA.
DOOM.



Victory does
not surprise
Victor Von
Doom.

no...
THIS IS NOT
POSSIBLE...



IT
CANNOT...NOT
LIKE THIS!

But there was
a moment.

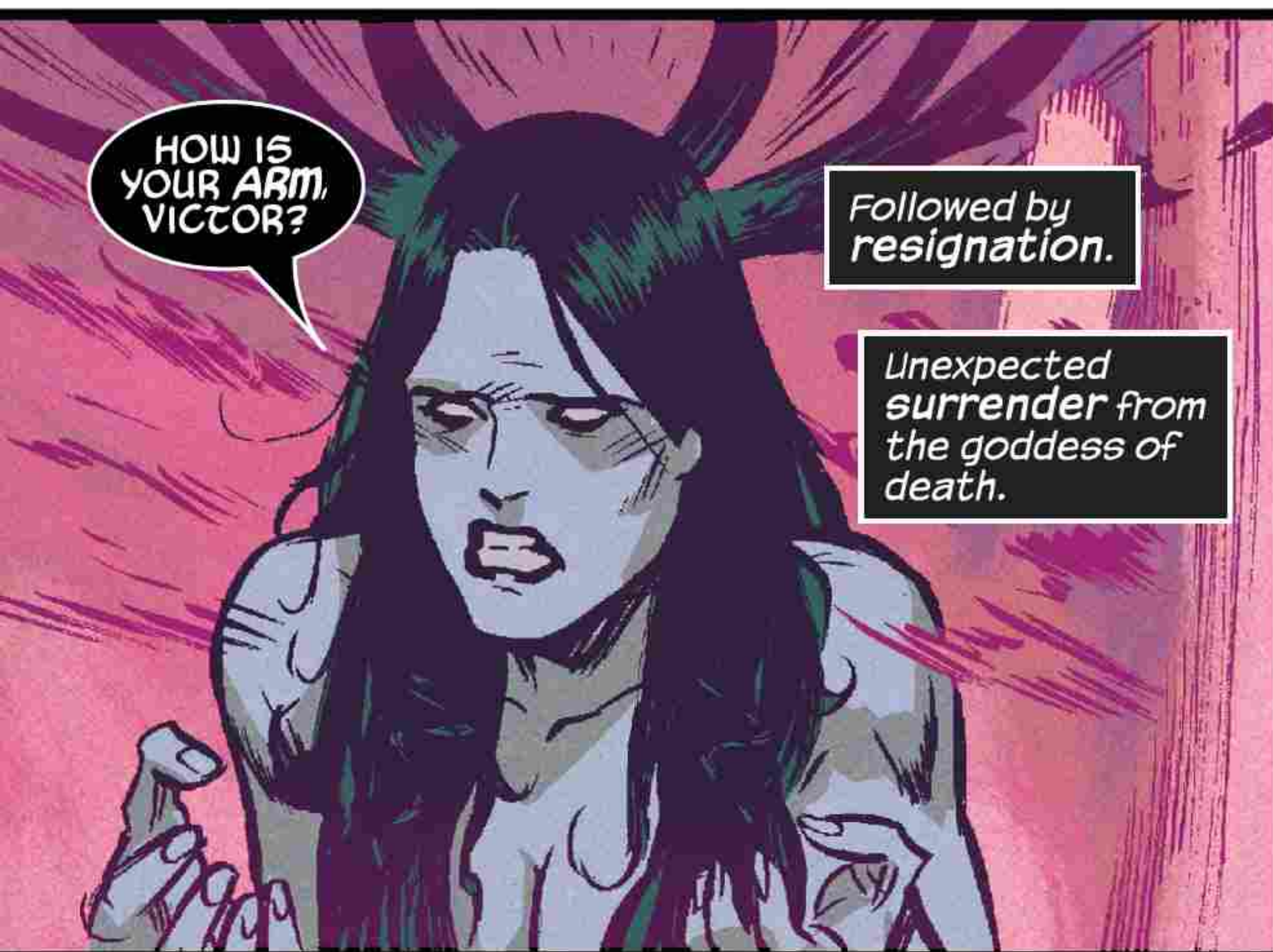
A moment of...
recognition?



HOW IS
YOUR ARM,
VICTOR?

Followed by
resignation.

Unexpected
surrender from
the goddess of
death.



He thinks about
that now--

--as he walks
through time.

And he wonders what
she knows that he
does not.





BOR'S VAULT,
NIFFLEHEIM.
NOW.

Thor is not
surprised to
see her.



Annoyed.

EH,
HULLO!

LAUSSA.

But not
surprised.



I FOLLOWED
DOOM HERE BUT
LOST HIM.

DID HE
GO THROUGH
THIS TIME
STORM?

YES. WAS I...
WAS I SUPPOSED
TO STOP HIM? YOU
DIDN'T SAY...

NO. YOU ARE
SUPPOSED TO BE
AT HOME WITH YOUR
GOVERNESS...



BROTHER...
YOU WERE THE
ONE WHO TOLD
ME I'D BE HERE IN
THE FIRST PLACE.



I SUPPOSE
I HAD MY
REASONS.

BUT
LEAVE DOOM
TO ME.

OKAY, TO
NAVIGATE THE
STORM, YOU--



LITTLE
SISTER...

...I DO
NOT REQUIRE
INSTRUCTIONS TO
TRAVEL THROUGH
A STORM.

NIFFLEHEIM.
CHEN.

He was 12 when
he killed his
first wolf.

It earned him
the name
Varg.

He never told anyone
how scared he was.

(Or how much he
regretted it.)

As the years passed, he
realized he had more in
common with the wolves
than with the warriors
around him.

It is hard to say if the man
transformed into a wolf or
if he gave his life so the
wolf could live once more.

Either way, the
wolf is all that
remains.

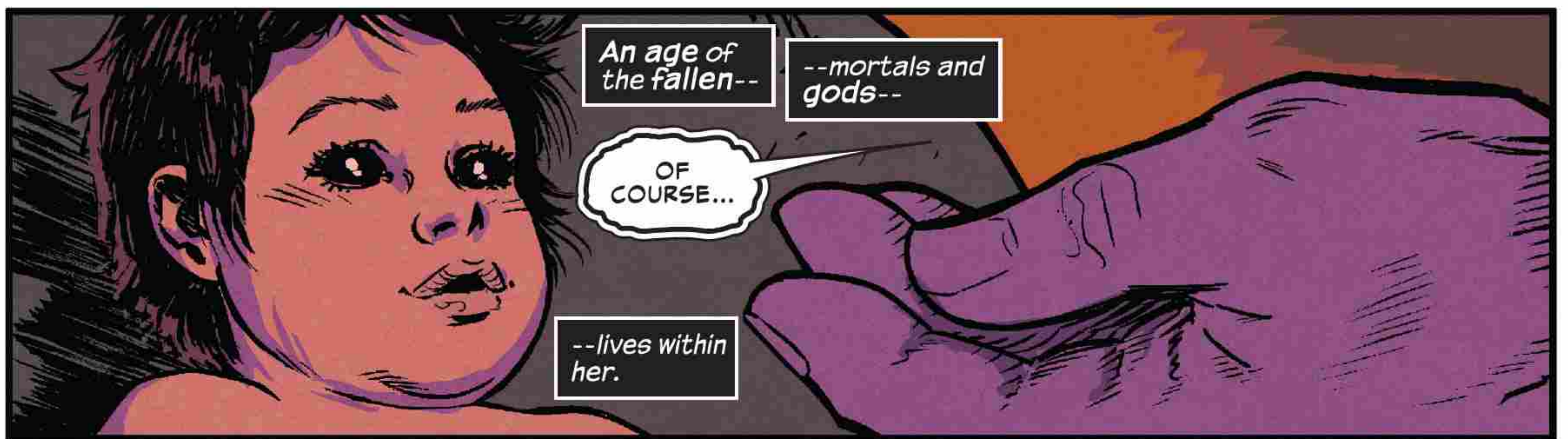
It is not dark
magic.

It is raw
magic.

Bor asked
for death.



And death
he got.



An age of
the fallen--

--mortals and
gods--

OF
COURSE...

--lives within
her.



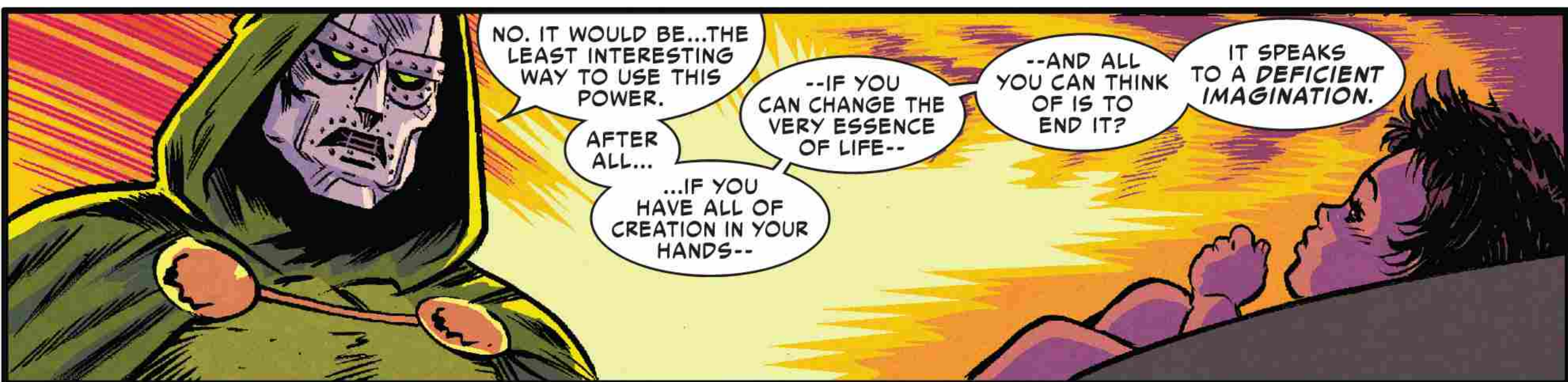
A SACRIFICE.

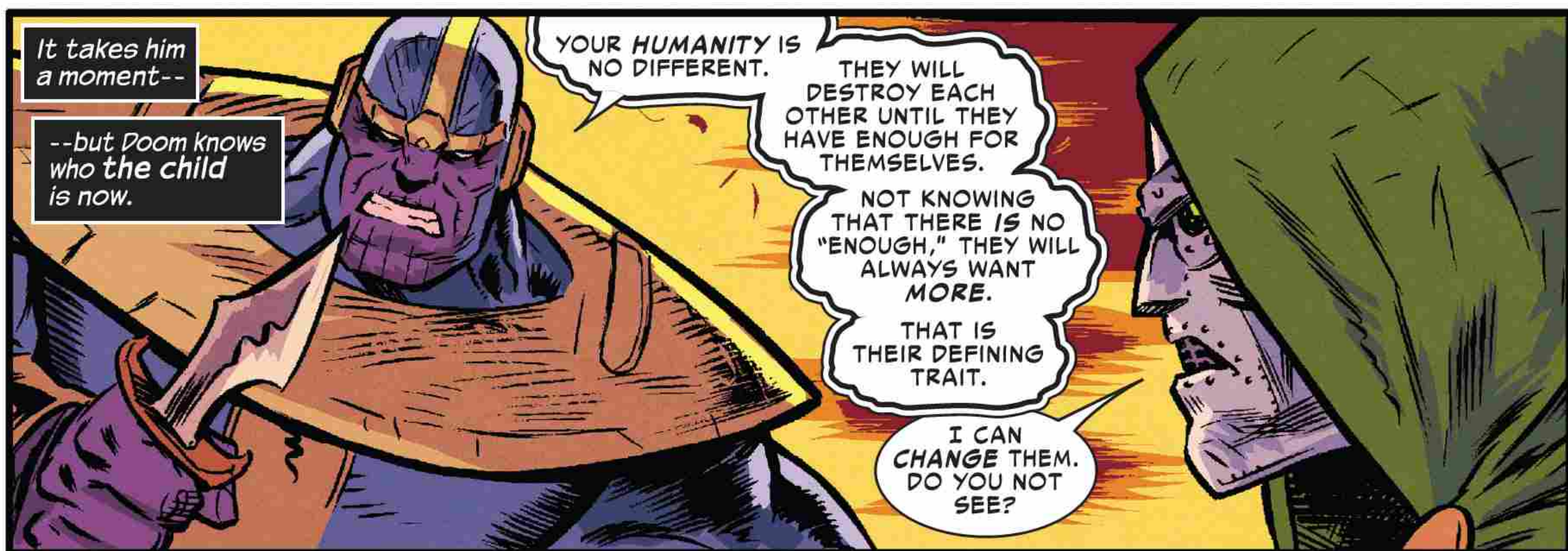
A DEATH
FOR THE DEATH
STONE.



END A
LIFE TO RULE
LIFE.

THANOS.





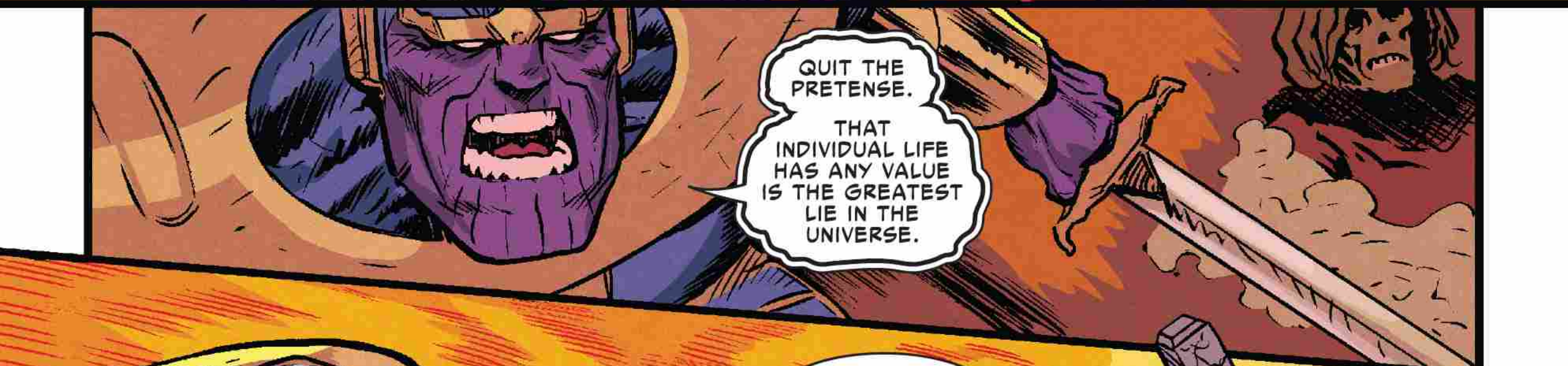
But he will not have to.

SACRIFICING A CHILD IS A NEW LOW, EVEN FOR YOU, THANOS.



QUIT THE PRETENSE.

THAT INDIVIDUAL LIFE HAS ANY VALUE IS THE GREATEST LIE IN THE UNIVERSE.



DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT?



I TRAVEL THROUGH TIME-- THOUSANDS OF YEARS INTO THE PAST--

--AND I STILL CANNOT SHAKE YOU, ODINSON.

ODINSON?



WHAT TRICK IS THIS?



BROXTON, MIDGARD.
THE PRESENT.

PEEK-AAA--

--BOOO!

PEEK-AAA--

--BOOO!!!

HIHIHI!



--AND
SHE IS IN
LACVERIA?

OH,
AYE, LASS.
NO MORE
DAWDLIN'.

BRÜN,
COME ON!

UP!

WE SHOULD
BRING THE CHILD,
RÚNA.

SHE APPEARS
TO HAVE A LIMITED
UNDERSTANDING
OF RISK
ASSESSMENT.

SHE REQUIRES
TRAINING.

YEAH,
THAT'S A HARD
NO, BRÜN.

COME ON.
JANE NEEDS
US.





"I MET THOR."

IT IS THE TRAP OF THE GODS, GRANDFATHER.

OUR PURPOSE IS TO GUIDE LIFE...PROTECT LIFE...

AND IN THAT, WE FAIL.

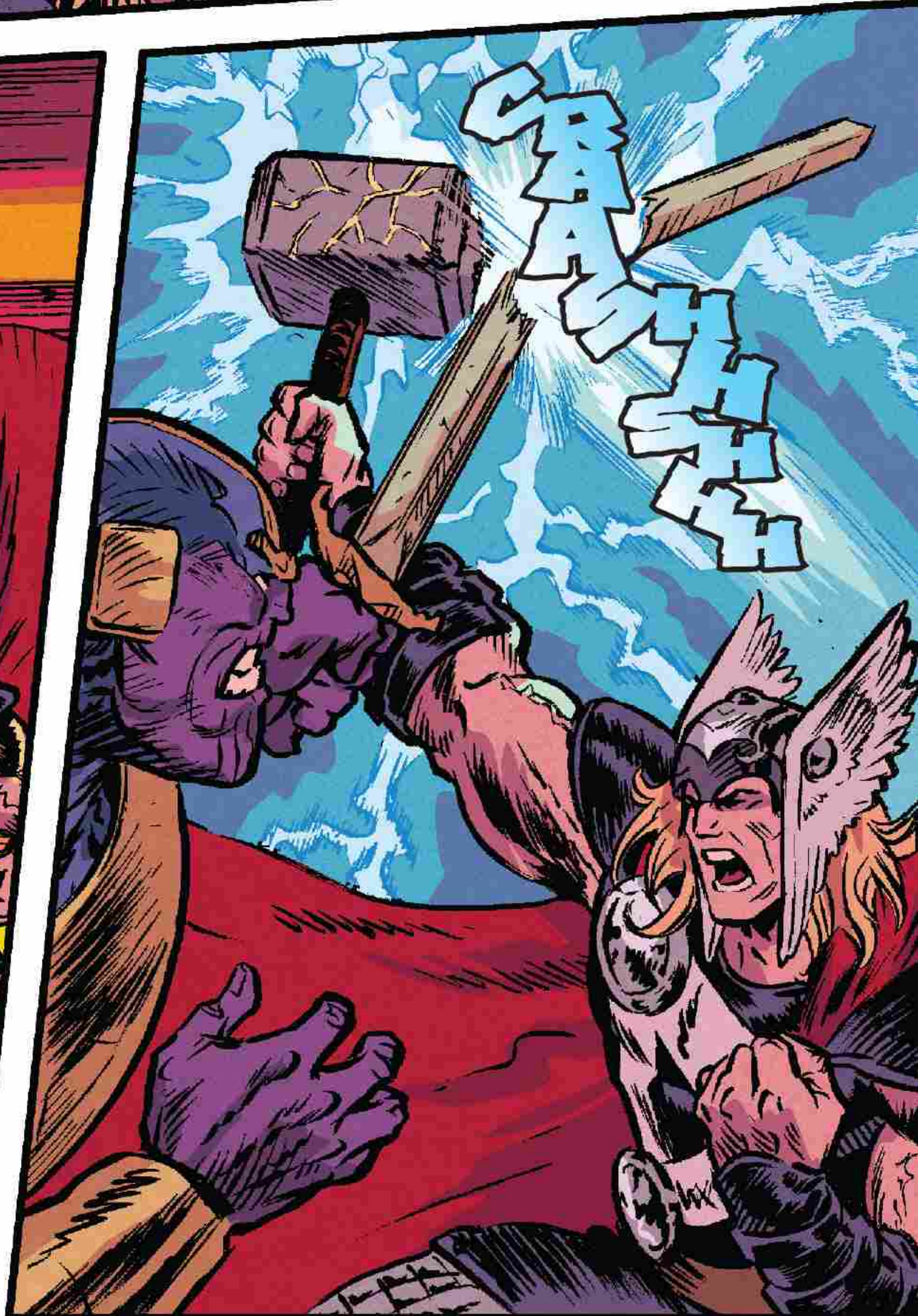
FAILURE. THAT IS OUR DEFINING TRAIT.



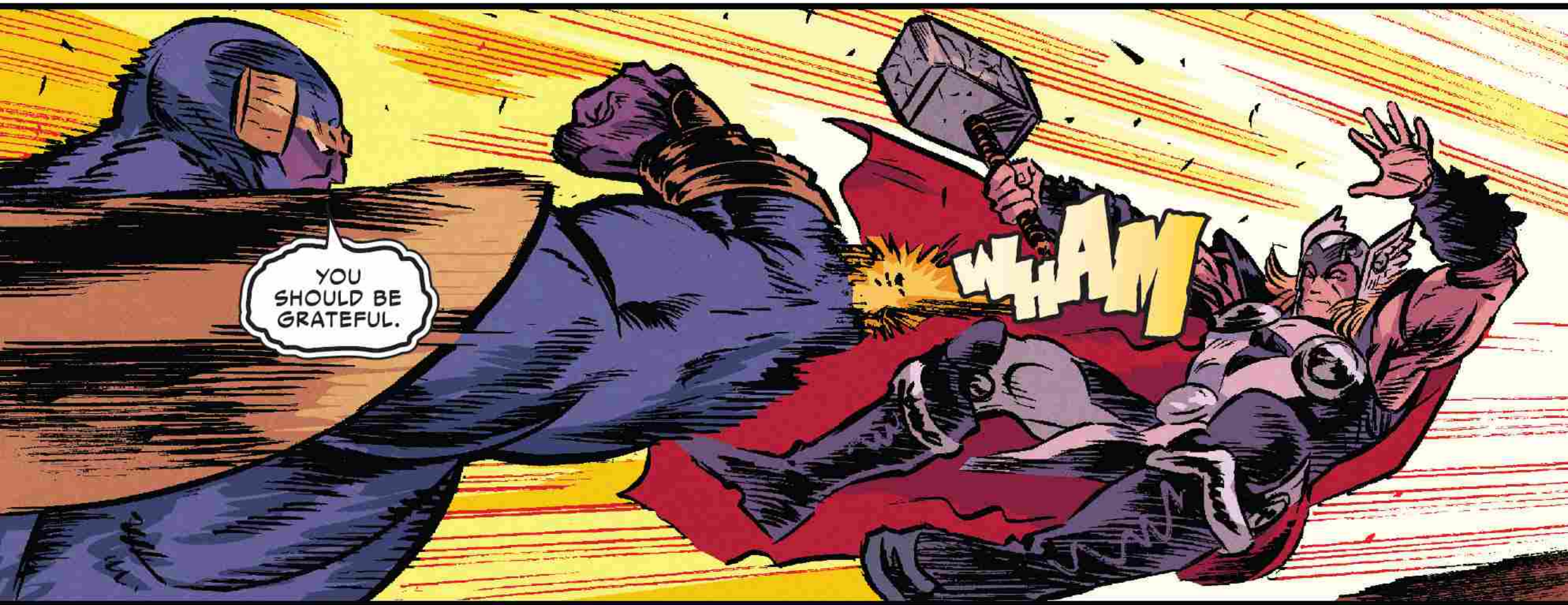
BUT THAT DOES NOT GIVE US THE RIGHT TO ALTER OR END LIFE AT OUR CONVENIENCE.



RIGHTS ARE A DELUSION OF THE WEAK, GODLING.

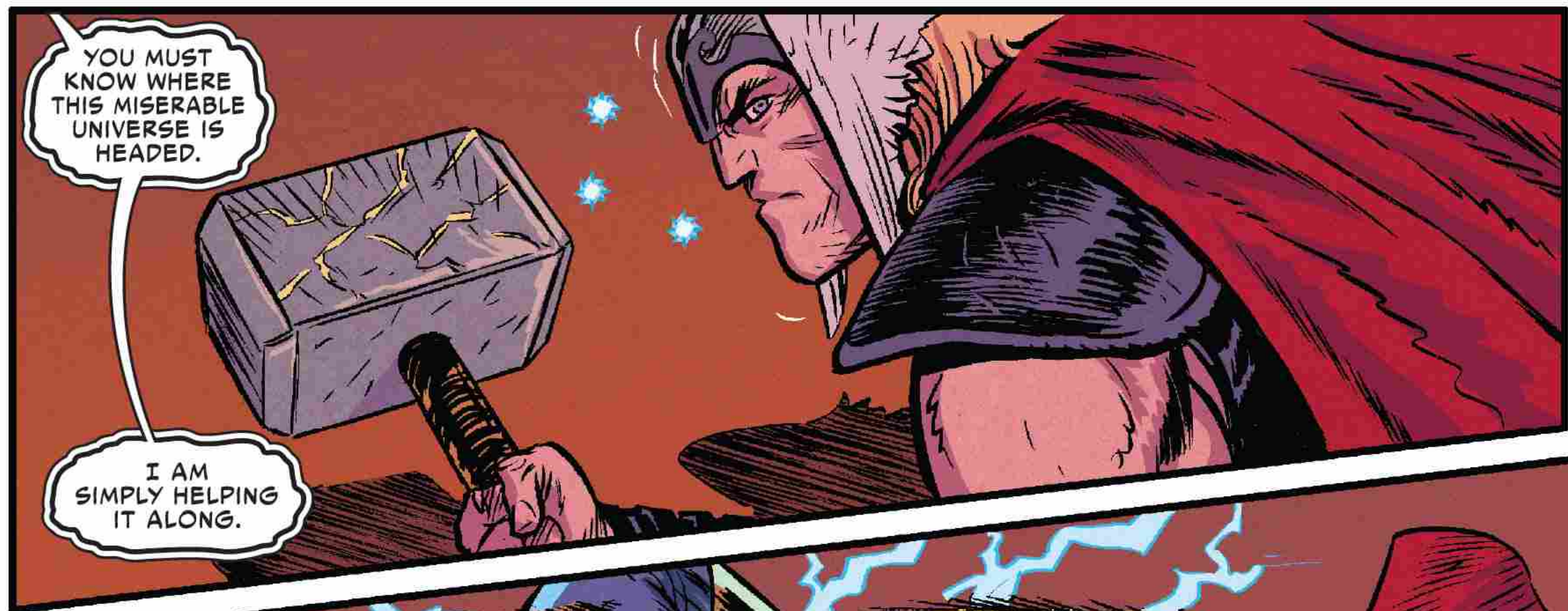


CRASH



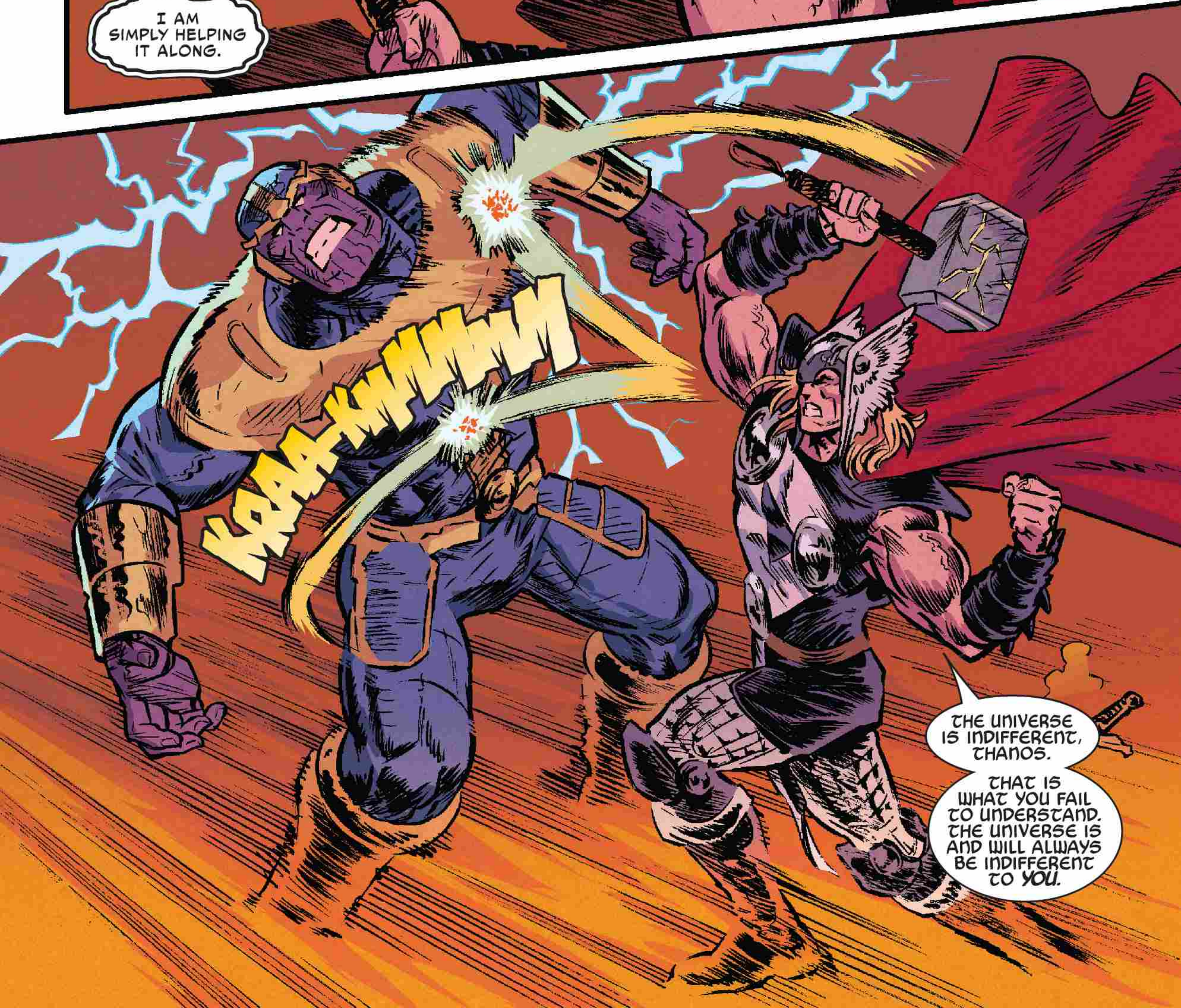
YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL.

WHAM



YOU MUST KNOW WHERE THIS MISERABLE UNIVERSE IS HEADED.

I AM SIMPLY HELPING IT ALONG.



KRAA-KNNNN

THE UNIVERSE IS INDIFFERENT, THANOS.

THAT IS WHAT YOU FAIL TO UNDERSTAND. THE UNIVERSE IS AND WILL ALWAYS BE INDIFFERENT TO YOU.



He thinks about fate.

And for the first time, Victor Von Doom feels truly powerless.

His actions seem predetermined.



GIVE ME THE CHILD, DOOM.

THE... CHILD?
YOU STILL DO NOT KNOW WHO SHE IS, DO YOU?



She always knew that he would save her.

YOUR IGNORANCE IS REMARKABLE, THANOS.

So, as they fall through time, he leaves her--



--to her fate.

She grows up.

Years pass in the wake of the storm.



She is aware that all the things she knows--



--were learned by others.



She understands the magic around her because of a sorceress called Ulfhild, who died a century ago.



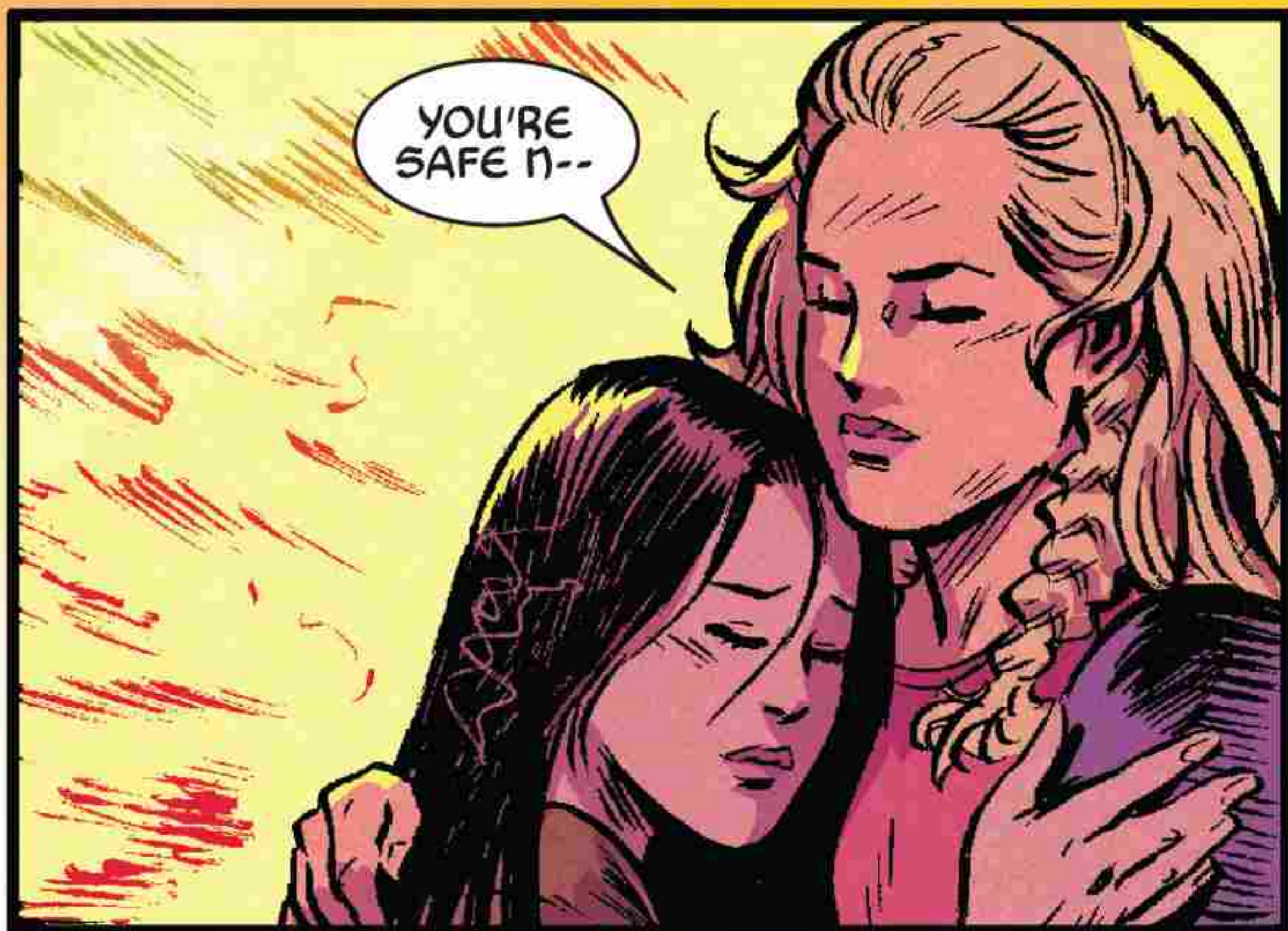
Like fading memories, the dead live inside her.

TAKE MY HAND!!!

Soon enough, they will fade completely.

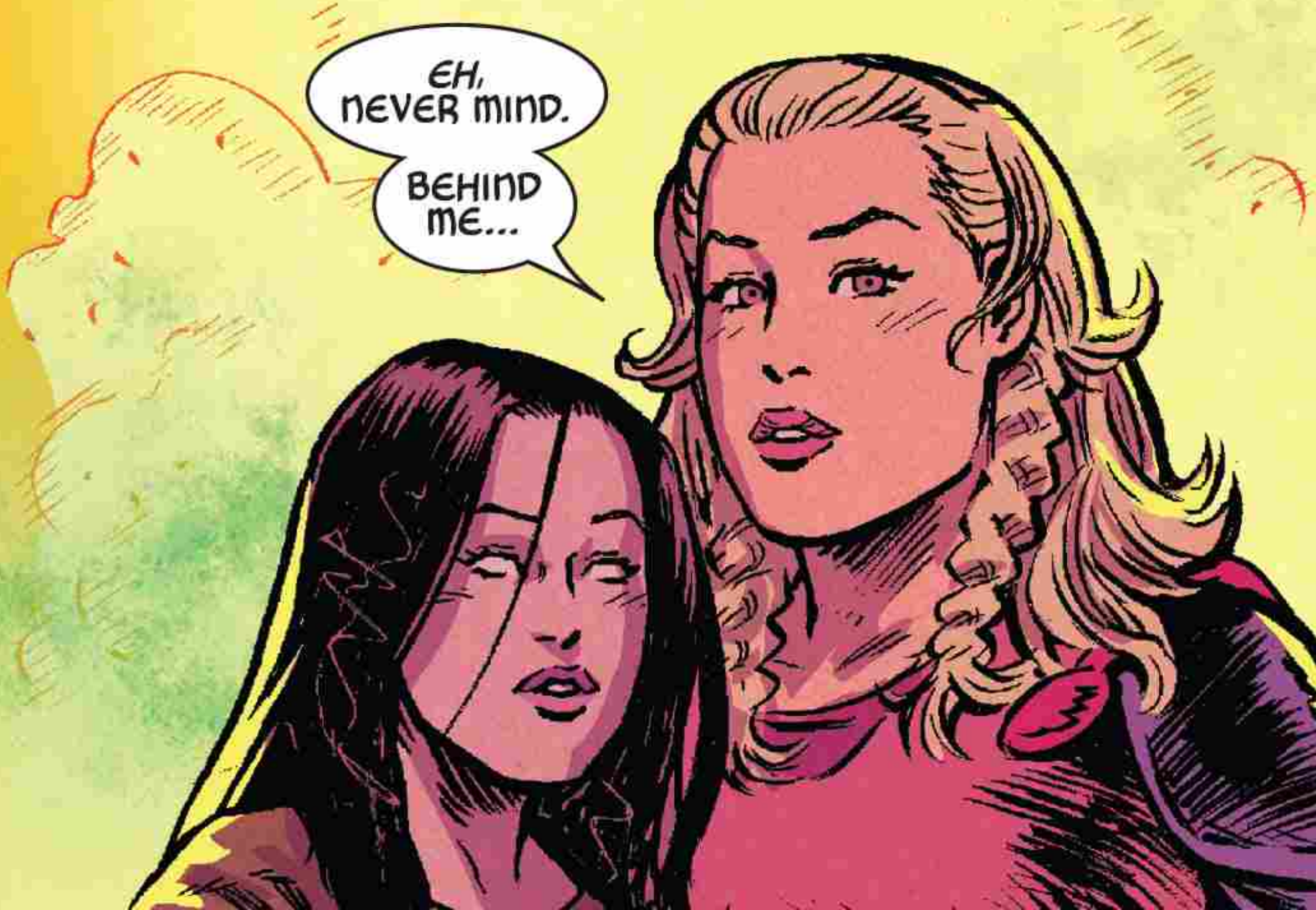


YOU'RE SAFE N--



EH, NEVER MIND.

BEHIND ME...



The child knows what it is--



STAY
BEHIND ME...
I...I'VE GOT
THIS.



WOLF...

YES.
WOLF...

--and she knows
it is dangerous.



HEY,
YOU CAN
TALK!

IT IS...
ATTACK.

ATTACK-ING.



RIGHT,
RIGHT.

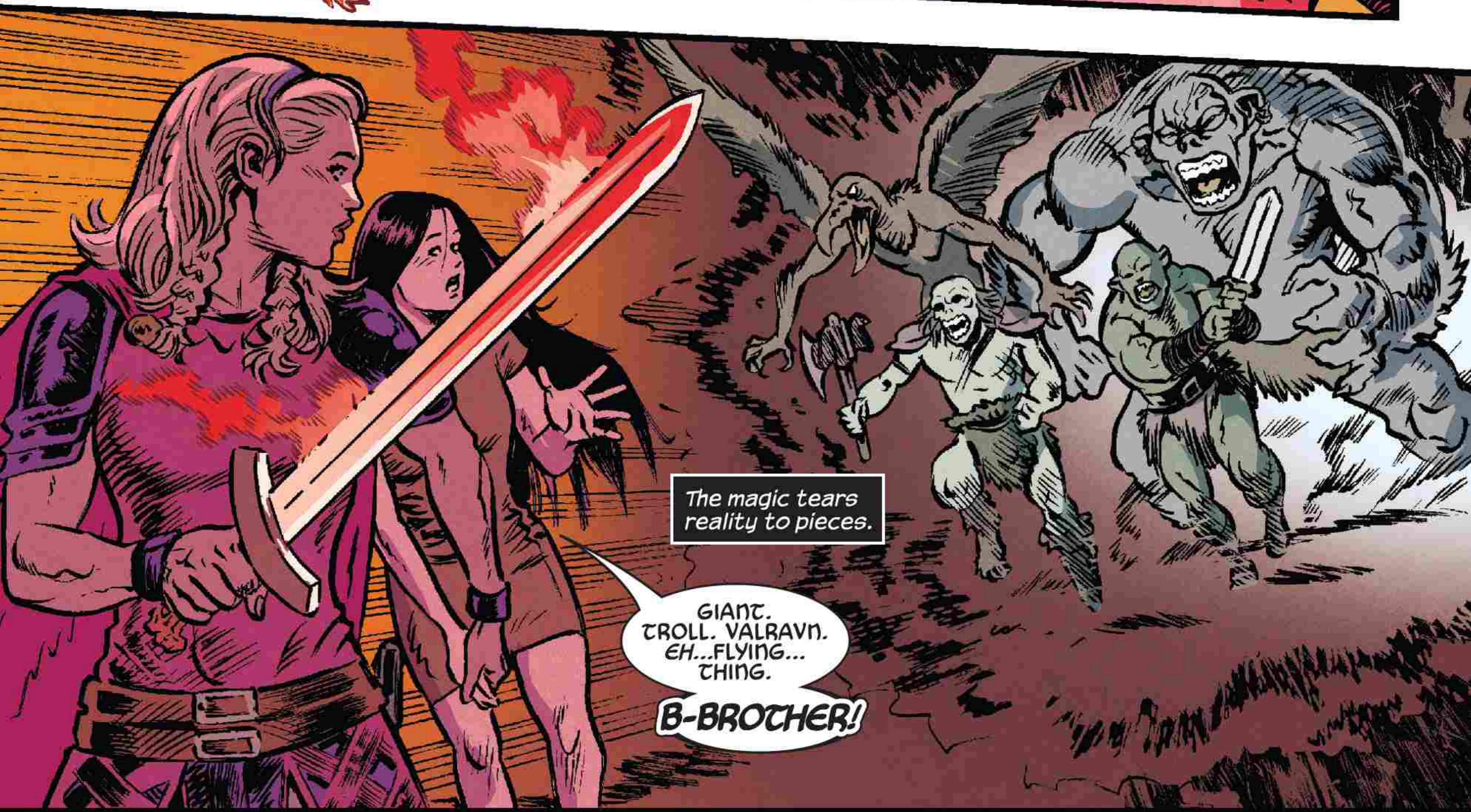
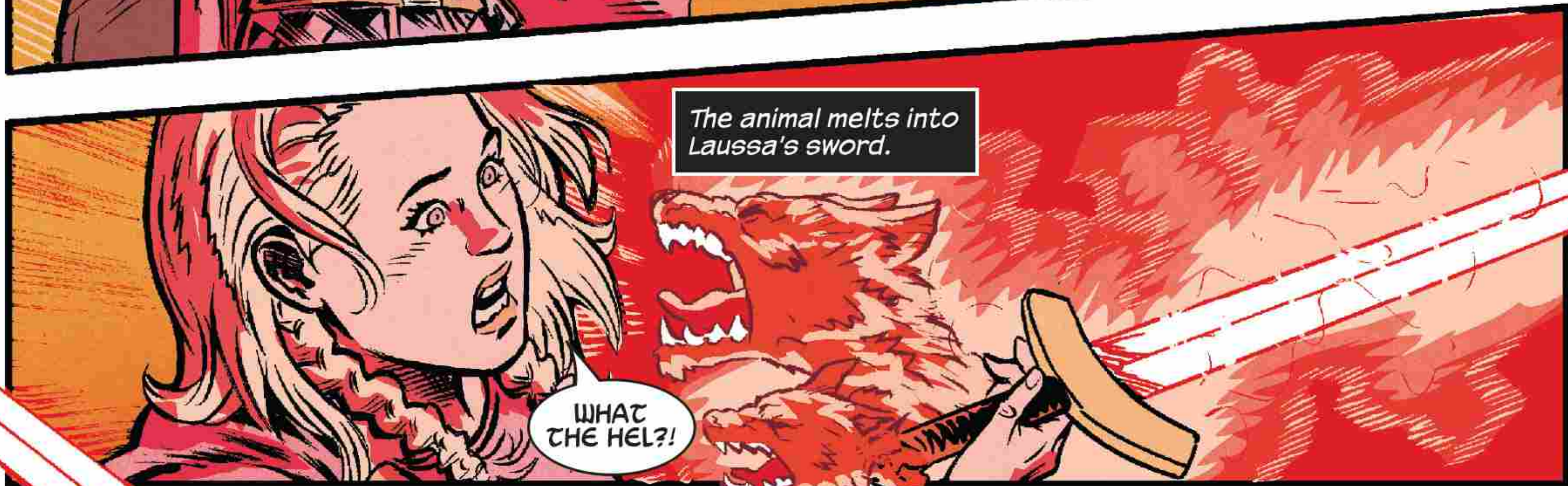
Somewhere deep inside,
the child feels the echo
of a young woman who
was killed by a wolf.

The old fear blends
with her own.



SLASH

RRAARGH--!







I SAW...

...I SAW
MY TIME. MY
AGE. I SAW
IT BEGIN...

...AND
I SAW IT
END.



I USED TO
THINK I WAS
ETERNAL--

--BUT I SAW
THINGS IN THE
FUTURE I WAS NOT
MADE TO HANDLE.
NOT MEANT
TO.

I SAW A
FUTURE FOR
WHICH I COULD
NOT BE KING.



AND I
SAW MY
SON.

I SAW
HIM GIVE
HIS EYE FOR
WISDOM.

I SAW
HIM SIRE
CHILDREN--



--CHILDREN
WHO WERE THERE,
FIGHTING ME...FIGHTING
DEATH...FIGHTING
FOR LIFE.

CHILDREN
WHO KNEW MORE
THAN ME BECAUSE
THEY WERE RAISED
BY HIM, BY
MY SON.

AND I FELT
PROUD. I FELT
CALM.



I WAS
THE DAWN.

ODIN
WAS THE
DAY.

AND NOW
THAT NIGHT
FALLS, IT IS
TIME...

"...FOR THOR."

The young goddess searches the memories that are not hers and remembers a hunt gone wrong.

And a woman's first love.

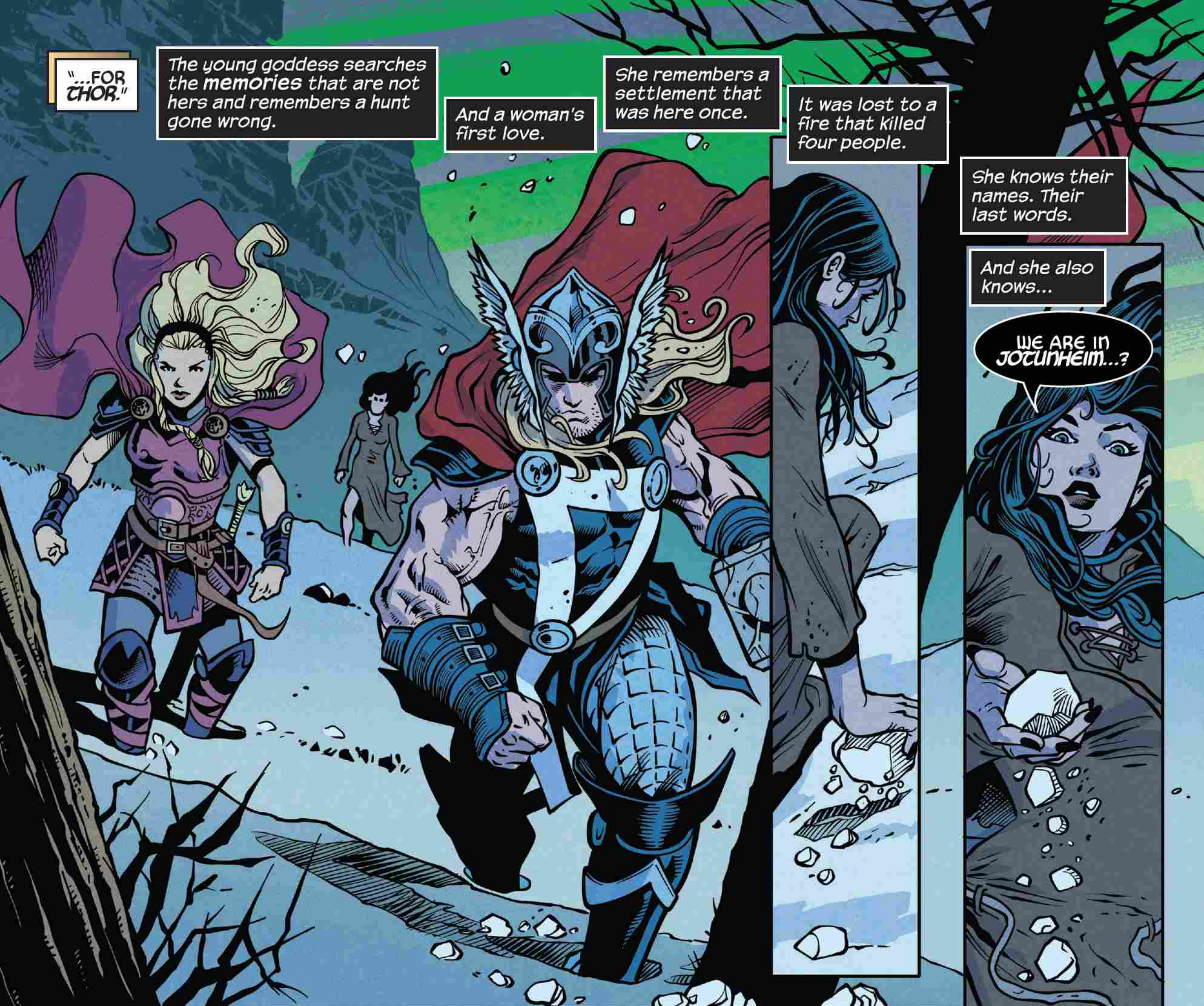
She remembers a settlement that was here once.

It was lost to a fire that killed four people.

She knows their names. Their last words.

And she also knows...

WE ARE IN JOTUNHEIM...?



WE ARE! BUT I SUPPOSE THE MORE PERTINENT QUESTION IS WHEN?

YOU WILL SEE.

IT'S COLD.



YES. COLD! HERE, SNOW. YOU'LL TAKE MY BOOTS. YOU'LL LEARN TO LOVE IT.

WELL, IF NOT LOVE, YOU'LL LEARN TO ACCEPT ITS EXISTENCE.

WILL YOU NOT BE COLD?



OH, I NEVER FEEL COLD.

MY FATHER-- WELL, ONE OF THEM--HE--

SHH. WE ARE HERE.







"--LOKI."

--JUST
BECAUSE YOU FAIL
TO UNDERSTAND
THE RULES OF
THE GAME.

YOU CHEAT,
YOU LOSE, LOKI.
THE HORSE IS
MINE.

WELL,
I BEG TO
DIFFER...

TO BE CONCLUDED.

NEXT ISSUE: THE END AND THE BEGINNING OF ALL THINGS!



ALSO:

LOKI #1



THOR ANNUAL #1



WHAT IF...?
DARK: LOKI #1



WRITE TO US AT MHEROES@MARVEL.COM
AND MARK YOUR MISSIVES "OKAY TO PRINT."

